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The Single Family Lifestyle

Many families in today’s society consisted of a single parent household. This includes either a mother or father taking on both parent roles for his or her children to maintain a good lifestyle. This can cause many problems for both the parent and children. The parent has to worry about maintaining a stable household, as though the child actually has two adults under one roof providing the needs. Unlike other kids who have both parents as support systems, most single-parent children worry about their other parents’ absence, why there is always a struggle to get what is needed, and why can’t they get their needs provided now instead of later. Many people may think that a parent and child can sustain the normal lifestyle growing up with only one parent. As proof, several articles have shown how different it can be with only one parent involved. With one parent it is hard to play super parent, you can’t provide everything that child may need, or help. As the child grows up some parents expect the child to get a job or some children seek it themselves to get one. Many explanations relate to what ways the single parent house hold can affect both the parent and children involved. While parenting expectations change over the years, there are a few duties needed to maintain a healthy household such as basic needs, care and safety, discipline, and bonding.

Some households may consist of just mother and children. In this generation you find more single mother households. Single mothers go out there way to provide not only for themselves but for their children. Any mother’s intuition is to seek that all basic needs for their children are meet. Needs such as food, shelter, clothing, and medical care are provide by a mother to make sure her children are well taken care of. Many mothers have worked two or more jobs to maintain having bills paid on time, food on the table, and clothes on their children’s back. Mothers are very protective when it comes to her children. For instance like, making sure they are provided with safety at school, home, and while hanging in the neighborhood. Although mothers can’t be around their children at all times, it’s her duty to make sure no harm comes toward their child. Anything that can deal with any type of abuse such as physical, mental, emotional, and/or sexual abuse is avoid while she’s away or while the child is in the care of someone else. Mothers go out their way to provide a hazardous free household for their children even though they have weapons to protect them all. Guns and other forms of weapons are placed out of sight and reach from the children but are still able to get to by the mother, herself. As the children grow up mothers discipline their children at an early age so they’ll know the difference between right and wrong. Mothers inform them to not only have respect for themselves as well as others and the meaning of being honest. Discipline is also put into full force, as a mother raise their child, so when attending school or public places they are well behaved.. A mother always covers the basics such as not touch others and look both ways when crossing the street, always. Mothers take full advantage of spending time with their families and being informed on what’s going on with their child. Therefore, by communicating with them they understand the child’s point of view and the child understands theirs as well but watch them grow too. Single will always continue to put their children’s need before their own. For example, by buying the child new necessities before doing the basic for herself. Single mothers balance out work, school actives, motherly duties, and helping with homework, and doing it all over again that following day.

In the article, “Ballad of a Single Mother” Lynn Olcott agrees that being a single mother can be overwhelming and exhausted, especially when doing something to better yourself, support a family and being single on top of that with no help. (Olcott 446)

Being a single mother money was always the problem. Many mothers were being underpaid at their job causing them to struggle and pay bills. Not only that school actives functions dues where approaching for deadlines. Soccer dues that Olcott could usually afford she couldn’t anymore, therefore her child could no longer play. (447) Sometimes mothers just weren’t able to pay for it therefore it seemed as though they let their child down but themselves also. Olcott says “ it’s essential that working mothers have better tools and support for coping with the responsibilities of supporting a family.” (447) It’s so hard on single mothers but yet they continue to manage and find a way out even if they didn’t ask for it.

Like single mothers, single fathers deal with the same duties as a single mother takes on to raise their children. Fathers have to make sure that bills are paid on time, kids have a well-cooked mean, and all the necessities they may need are meet. Sometimes a father has to balance out work, fatherly and motherly duties, homework, and family time itself. Fathers have to learn to cook, pick clothes out, patch a child sores up from a fall that occur on a playground instead of saying be tough you’ll be okay. A child’s safety wither their at home, school, or out in the neighborhood is a parental duty. A father will check on the where about of his child and his or her surroundings regarding their safety. Also, a father will take full response ability of being around his child at all times possible. Only to avoid all types of abuse a child can obtain in the world such as mental, physical, sexual, and emotional abuse. It’s a crazy world now a day, anything can happen, so why not be cautious. Not only will fathers be caution outside of the home but as well as the inside. Weapons such as guns, knife, and others will be stored away out of reach for the kids but insight when he needs them. Although the male is not as discipline, when it comes to their children a lot of authority is taught in that household. Fathers make sure their kids are respectful to themselves and others, and to be truthful and also responsibility. Fathers usually base the discipline of his child on religious teaching. Many fathers bond with their children in a tuff manner. Showing them how to be strong and never weak minded in any obstacle he or she my face but still provide that same love and care.

In the article “Children of Gay Fathers’ says the parenting styles of gay fathers are not markedly different from those of other single fathers, but gay father try to create a more stable home environment and more positive relationship with their children than traditional heterosexual parents (410). Therefore any type of male can take on his responsibility of making share the child or children are living a safe protective lifestyle. Also, “gay fathers feel an additional responsibility to provide effective fathering because they know their homosexuality causes others to examine their parenting styles closely says Barret and Robinson (411.) Regardless stereotyping someone’s sexuality doesn’t benefit the way children are well taken care of and the living style is stable. That because in this article was gay, the role of a father figure never changed just the way of who he mates with as far as a partner wise.

Yes, the parents of a single parent household may have it hard but the children actually do have it harder. Self-esteem issues and other emotions from this situation can really affect the child, and his or her behavior. Children compare themselves to those who have more than them, and who have two parents. Children who have a single parent have it two times harder, growing with having to make sacrifices be though about. Sometimes when a child’s basic needs aren’t me they seem to become disappointed, anger and feel neglect. But a child can’t fault the parent, it’s not like the parent asked for the hard times and the struggle to be given to them, they are just faced with it. If a child didn’t have all the safety precautions given by their parent anything can happen. A child could end up very troubled some, like in jail or even dead, in today’s society anything could happen. If numerous accidents were to occur, and the possibility of the children being taken away from the environment their parent provide would be shameful. That is why disobedience can lead to bullying, careless-ness will occur in their world causing punishment. This could lead to the amount of bonding the child gets from his or her parent they could feel neglected cause of the lack of communication. That’s why parents and children do actives and spend time with one another to avoid harmful and ignorant situations.

You never know the outcome of someone’s situation unless you walked in his or her shoes. The single parent household life style affects everyone who is involved not just one person. Both the children and parent face their emotional path of dealing with this situation. The struggle of maintaining a stable household is just as hard for the parent as the emotional effect of only one parent actual has on a child. Even though a new method of living and parent is develop all the time the safety and organization of having a good one still remains the same.

Work Cited

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